IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

KATO, et al.

Int'l Appln. No.

PCT/JP01/03412

Int'l Filing Date

April 20, 2001

Title of Invention

ENCODING APPARATUS AND METHOD,

RECORDING MEDIUM AND PROGRAM

745 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10151

EXPRESS MAIL

Mailing Label Number:

EV001577435US

Date of Deposit:

December 19, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box PCT, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Darried Orindirna

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Box: PCT

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are copies of the publications which were cited in the International Search Report of International Application No. PCT/JP01/03412. Also enclosed is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and the International Search Report.

-1- 00042155.DOC

10/018836 JC12 Rec'd PCT/PTO 19 DEC 2001 PATENT 450101-03301

REMARKS

Entry of this Information Disclosure Statement and an early examination on the merits are respectfully solicited.

Please charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:

Reg. No. 25,506 (212) 588-0800

WSF/jm Enclosures

-2- 00042155.DOC

10/018836 48 Rec'd PCT/PTO 19 DEC 2001

SERIAL NO. ATTY. DOCKET NO. Based on Form PTO-1449 (3/90) To be assigned 450101-03301 APPLICANT LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) KATO, et al. GROUP FILING DATE U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS DOCUMENT NUMBER NAME CLASS FILING DATE DATE **EXAMINER** IF APPROPRIATE INITIAL AA AB AC AD ΑE ΑF AG ΑH SUBCLASS Αl AJ FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS TRANSLATION CLASS SUBCLASS DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE COUNTRY YES NO 02/14/97 Japan ΑK 9-46691 8-46907 02/16/96 Japan AL 11-205740 07/30/99 Japan AM 05/20/97 Japan AN 9-135412 ΑO AP ΑQ AR OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) AS ΑT **EXAMINER** DATE CONSIDERED * EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through

citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.